



## Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 2

**Meeting Date:** May 3, 2006

**Meeting Location:** Knox Community Center, Knox, IN.,

**Council Members Present:** Charlotte Richey, Terrance Ciboch, Claudia Clark, Linda Gray, Judge Mary Harper, Larry Harris, Sharon Mathew, Judge Michael Shurn, Eileen Walter

**Council Members Absent:** Judge Jeryl Leach, Linda Rugg

**Others In Attendance:** Ron Fisher, Judge Kim Hall, Jon Rutkowski, Kris Pate (Dunebrook), Brandi Lewis (Dunebrook), Diana Dibkey (Dunebrook), Jackie Agee (White's Family Services), Robin Sanders (Dunebrook), Mike Knish (Dockside), James Shively (CWS Coordinator), Edward Neimeth (Magistrate Porter Co.), Allison Cox (Family Court, Porter Co.)

### Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Called to Order at:** Regional Services Council meeting was called to order by Charlotte Richey at 5:30 P.M. (CST)/6:30 P.M. (EST)

1. It was noted that 8 council members were present to constitute a quorum for the meeting.
2. April meeting minutes were reviewed. It was noted that there was a change in the minutes concerning the allocation for the intensive services from \$500,000.00 to \$350,400.00 for 18 months. There were no other corrections and a motion to pass the April minutes was made and seconded. Motion passed, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.
3. Community Partners for Child Safety program:
  - a. Jim Burns from Family Focus submitted a letter with deep regret that Family Focus cannot accept the Community Partners for Child Safety project.
  - b. In addition to Family Focus there were two other agencies that submitted proposals for the program. Both were contacted and offered the opportunity to present a regional plan. Wabash Valley Hospital, Inc., declined the offer, reason being, they do not have the available resources for this program.
  - c. Diana Dibkey, Executive Director for the LaPorte County Child Abuse Prevention Council/Dunebrook expressed an interest in doing a regional proposal

for the Child Safety program. Ms. Dibkey's presentation centered on every child being safe, healthy, and happy. Dunebrook has braided services through staff to have the necessary tools to support families. They continue to pull together the necessary pieces to deliver services to the community and can mentor wrap around prevention services based on the needs of the referred families. Dunebrook's mission is to advocate for children and to provide positive family support and education. Jim Shively interjected a comment about Central Office having a target date for this program to be up and running by December 31, 2006. There was some lengthy discussion in finding alternate funding that may be available for this project.

d. Charlotte Richey called for a motion to vote that the Regional Service Council partner with Dunebrook on this project. It was so moved and seconded. This motion was passed. There were 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

e. Linda Gray, Eileen Walters, Larry Harris, Magistrate Edward Neimeth, and Claudia Clark have volunteered to participate in Community Partners for Child Safety AdHoc Committee. Charlotte Richey has asked that this committee schedule a meeting before the next Council meeting and have a Chair elected. They need to begin working with Dunebrook as quickly as possible on this project. Charlotte Richey being the primary contact person from Central Office has also volunteered to work on this committee as time permits. The Committee can also contact Ms. Celia Leaird Project Manager from DCS in Indianapolis and begin working together on this project.

*Note: The AdHoc Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday May 24, 2006 at 8:00 A.M. (CST) at Porter County Juvenile Court*

4. Intensive Family Preservation and Reunification Program. Jim Shively stated that the new service standards are still in draft form and not ready for distribution. Program is still moving forward. Training will begin on July 1, 2006 and services provided will be available on October 1, 2006. This training will be done at the Regional Training site in Michigan City DCS office. Three (3) days training will be set up for direct workers and a two (2) day training for supervisors of that worker. Any vacancies can be filled by DCS employees. The hope is that at least one (1) worker from each county will be attending these trainings.

5. Remaining MWD contracts: Kids Help United did withdraw their proposals due to proposed limited funding. Charlotte Richey signed the 660 forms to be sent to Indianapolis for the proposals starting on July 1, 2006. These are the first forms for the initial allocations made by the Directors to the various providers selected for contracts effective July 1, 2006. Mention was made to have Jim Shively come and do a brief training for non-DCS people on how referrals are done, funds distributed, and monies transferred.

6. Porter County drafted a set of Service Standards for Psychosexual Testing and Treatment. Judges expressed to be able to have input into this group as to what our

local needs might be and also try to get this done sooner than later. These Service Standards need to be reviewed as they will be added to next month's agenda.

7. It was decided amongst Executive Staff and Regional Managers that County budgets this year would come before the RSC before they are finalized. Each director would do a brief presentation so that everyone is aware of the financial obligations in the other counties.

**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:** June 7, 2006 at Porter County Office in Valparaiso, Indiana at 5:30 P.M. (CST)/6:30 P.M. (EST).

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 6:48 P.M. (CST)/7:47 P.M. (EST).